



## PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

24 February 2023

This week started with a visit from magician, Mr. Fye. We invited many Kindergartens into our community to join us for this entertaining show. The same day, we welcomed a visit from Diocesan Child Safety and Mental Health advocates, to value-add to our commitment to making our Catholic schools safe and happy communities.

Mr. Fye's magic, however entertaining, was quite transparent through my adult lens. Conversely, in looking through a child's lens, students were mystified by the illusions created. Joy, innocence and excitement oozed from the faces of our young students and Mrs. Cook captured this beautifully through her photographer's lens. I enjoyed seeing our students so engaged in something that did not involve a screen.

These two experiences, morphed in to one by the end of my day. I reflected on how, the smoke and mirrors used to 'trick' one's perception, were blatantly obvious to me. Whereas, to the younger audience it was pure magic. It made me draw parallels between how vulnerable and easily impressed our young people can sometimes be. How easily 'tricked' young people can be in to feeling safe, when they may not be. Happily, our students were and are safe, due to the policies and procedures we thoroughly carry out. However, it reinforced for me, why we spend so many hours on Child Safety training at the beginning of each year and why Rockhampton Catholic Education is so invested in ensuring our schools are secure havens.

It is not only young children who can have their perceptions altered or blurred. In Genesis we read how Adam, our own paradigm, so easily surrendered to a temptation which was easy and self-fulfilling. Ultimately, this is a narrative which teaches us about human weakness and encourages us to have our eyes wide open, to those daily challenges that can stifle our growth and happiness. A challenge for all!

This week we received ashes to mark the beginning of Lent. This 40-day period echoes the time Jesus spent in the desert, giving up life's bare necessities and challenging his own self-control. Each Lenten season, I draw from the message that, even Jesus needed to take 'time out'. Time out, to escape the noise and clutter of a civilised world. It might be assumed that he did this to help him eradicate what might have been 'blurring' his thoughts and judgements, in order to carve out his next move, in realising his ultimate mission.

This week I read the following statement in Rockhampton Catholic Education's 'Well Being and Mental Health in the workplace' policy. *'In Australia, around 45% of people aged between 16 and 85 will experience a mental illness at some point in their life, while one in five Australian adults will experience a mental illness in any given year (ABS, 2007). Mental health problems are the third biggest health problem in Australia, after heart disease and cancer (Begg et al, 2007)'. In total mental illness is costing Australia about \$200-\$220 billion per year (Australian Gov, 2020).*

In the modern world we live, it is even more challenging to find 'desert moments' to enable us to escape the noise and clutter, which can blur our perceptions and confuse our minds. Year 3B lead us in a beautiful song this week, challenging us to 'be God's grace', 'be God's mercy', 'be God's strength' for 'one person at a time'. Can I suggest we all start by making that 'one person' our own self, this Lenten season, to enable us the vision and strength necessary to 'be God's hands' for those most in need, as we prepare for Easter.

*Kim O'Shea-Hard*



Click our  
school crest  
to go our  
school  
website



Click the  
Parish logo  
to go to the  
Parish  
website



Click the  
Facebook  
icon to go to  
our Facebook  
page



**Absentees**

4994 8336

[spb\\_absentees@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:spb_absentees@rok.catholic.edu.au)

## CATHOLIC IDENTITY—WE NEED YOUR INPUT

One of the most important things about being a Catholic school in the 21st century is knowing who we are and what purpose we serve. We need to have a clear understanding of our role as a Catholic school. To assist with this and as an important part of our School Improvement process, St Patrick's will shortly participate in a Catholic Identity survey which is conducted by Leuven University in Belgium. The research project is aimed at assisting us with understanding how our Catholic identity is expressed in work and practice as well as supporting plans to further enhance our Catholic Identity for the future.

All staff, along with our students from years 5 and 6 will participate in the survey at school. We would also like to give parents a voice by inviting and encouraging you to take part in the survey, which will be conducted online and is not identifiable.

Go to the Survey Site: [www.ecsi.site/au/user/Ghj654](http://www.ecsi.site/au/user/Ghj654)

Your school Group code: i1289

Your school Survey Access Code: j7346x




## PROJECT COMPASSION CHALLENGE

This week students received their small donation boxes to take home and find a few coins to put in them during Lent. Our first Lent challenge is called Bucks for Books. Money we raise as a school community will go toward setting up a school library in a Nepalese school. When students bring in their donations they will receive some 'books' to add to our school total (displayed outside the library). It's a fun way for our students to get involved in helping others during Lent.

## LENTEN MESSAGES

Please find attached for your information a copy of Bishop Michael's Lenten Pastoral Letter and a copy of Pope Francis's Lenten message for 2023. Please click on the below letter images to access.



**CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON**

Ph: 23037 MAA, 1102

20 February 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

I write at the beginning of Lent to encourage you, as the Gospel of Ash Wednesday states, in a life of prayer, fasting and good works. I attach the message from the Holy Father for the beginning of Lent. I pray that this will be a great time to prepare ourselves for Easter where we celebrate the life, death and resurrection of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

During this time of Lent we have many opportunities in our parishes for prayer, reconciliation and the various Lenten programmes. I encourage you to join a group and to pray through the scriptures once again that our life is sacred. We are made in the image of God and our creator calls us to ensure that we look after not only our life, but all life from its very beginning to its very end.

Finally, there is an opportunity for us to do good work, as the Ash Wednesday Gospel encourages us, through Project Compassion as once again this year we are invited to look outwards. In these past few months we have watched as the war in Ukraine continues, the devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, and also our Pacific brothers and sisters.

Recently when I attended the FCBCD conference we were shown the many effects of exploitation and the effects of climate intervention on the many features of the Fijian islands. Caritas was there as a great presence, and in many ways as a great support, for the locals and to invite the government to look at different ways to extract minerals, and rather than damaging the environment to care for it. Project Compassion provides a way of assisting our brothers and sisters through the works of Caritas in the Pacific and especially our neighbours, People's New Guinea, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji and all the Pacific islands.

May this time of Lent be a time of getting closer to the author of all life, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

May God bless you all.

*Michael McCarthy*

Most Rev Michael McCarthy  
Bishop of Rockhampton

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**INTEGRAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER  
for Lent 2023

*Lenten Penance and the Synodal Journey*

Dear brothers and sisters!

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke all recount the episode of the Transfiguration of Jesus. There was a real clash between the Master and Simon Peter, who, after professing his faith in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God, rejected his prediction of the passion and the cross. Jesus had firmly rebuked him: "Get behind me, Satan! You are a scandal to me, because you do not think according to God, but according to men!" (Mt 16:23). Following this, "six days later, Jesus took with him Peter, James and John his brother and led them away to a high mountain" (Mt 17:1).

The Gospel of the Transfiguration is proclaimed every year on the Second Sunday of Lent. During this liturgical season, the Lord takes us with him to a place apart. While our ordinary commitments compel us to remain in our usual places and our often repetitive and sometimes boring routines, during Lent we are invited to ascend "a high mountain" in the company of Jesus and to live a particular experience of spiritual discipline – asceticism – as God's holy people.

Lenten penance is a commitment, sustained by grace, to overcoming our lack of faith and our resistance to following Jesus on the way of the cross. This is precisely what Peter and the other disciples needed to do. To deepen our knowledge of the Master, to fully understand and embrace the mystery of his salvation, accomplished in total self-giving inspired by love, we must allow ourselves to be taken aside by him and to detach ourselves from mediocrity and vanity. We need to set out on the journey, an uphill path that, like a mountain trek, requires effort, sacrifice and concentration. These requisites are also important for the synodal journey to which, as a Church, we are committed to making. We can benefit greatly from reflecting on the relationship between Lenten penance and the synodal experience.

In his "retreat" on Mount Tabor, Jesus takes with him three disciples, chosen to be witnesses of a unique event. He wants that experience of grace to be shared, not solitary, just as our whole life of faith is an experience that is shared. For it is in togetherness that we follow Jesus. Together too, as a pilgrim Church in time, we experience the liturgical year and Lent within it, walking alongside those whom the Lord has placed among us as fellow travellers. Like the ascent of Jesus and the disciples to Mount Tabor, we can say that our Lenten journey is "synodal", since we make it together along the same path, as disciples of the one Master. For we know that Jesus as himself the

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## DANCE NIGHT

Welcome Dance Night will be held Thursday 16th March. Our annual dance night is a wonderful way to welcome new families to the school and for our students to showcase their dancing talents they have developed through their Physical Education lessons.

The dance presentation will be held on the senior oval. Students will be seated in designated areas and supervised by teachers in their respective year levels during the performances. Students will remain with their classmates in their designated areas for the duration of the performances, with parents sitting in an area behind the children. Folding chairs are recommended for parents. Each student will be involved in three dances. Our students have worked very hard to learn their dances and are looking forward to this performance to showcase their skills.



**Gates Open—4:30pm** Parents are welcome to bring a picnic dinner to enjoy with your family on the oval.

**Dance presentation is 5:00pm – 6:00pm.**

### Costume Themes

- **Prep & Year 1—Superheroes**
- **Years 2, 3 & 4—Sailors OR Irish (Green)**
- **Years 5 & 6—Free Dress (Green Accessories)**

## SPORTS NEWS

### BUNDABERG DISTRICT U12 SCHOOL SPORTS TRIALS

BDSS Sport		Age Group	Date	Venue	Time
AFL	Boys & Girls	Born 2011 or 2012	Monday 27 February	Across the Waves Grounds <i>Please ensure mouthguard is taken to the trials along with your Mouthguard Consent Form.</i>	3:45-5:15pm
		Exceptional 2013 players	Monday 6 March		
Softball	Boys & Girls	Born 2011, 2012 & 2010	Tuesday 28 February Tuesday 7 March	Bundaberg Softball Grounds	3:30-5:00pm
Netball	Girls	Born 2012	Tuesday 7 March	Multi—St Luke’s Anglican	3:30—5:00pm
		Exceptional 2013 players	Thursday 9 March		
		Born 2011	Tuesday 14 March Thursday 16 March	Multi—St Luke’s Anglican	3:30—5:00pm

### BUNDABERG DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

Congratulations **MATILDA KEMPS**, **FLO LEWIS**, **LAYLA MORLEY** and **EDI BROWN** who have been selected to represent the Bundaberg District in Touch Football.

Well done to these students and we hope you had an enjoyable and rewarding experience at the Wide Bay selection trials held late this week.



Congratulations to the parents who have survived their first month of Prep!

Here is a link to a great article describing what to expect from your Preppie in the first few weeks of starting school. This was written by one of Brisbane Catholic Education's lovely Guidance Counsellors, Rachel Kingsbury.



Book club catalogues have been sent home with your child today. All orders need to be made **ONLINE via LOOP payment** on the Scholastic website, as no cash orders can be accepted. Please go to [www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP). All orders are due by **Thursday 9 March**. As soon as orders are dispatched to us, we will then send home with your child.



## DATE CLAIMERS—SHALOM COLLEGE



# Save the Date YEAR 7 2024

**Information Evening - Thursday 2 March 2023 7.00pm—8.30pm**

**Shalom College Performing Arts Precinct**

For prospective parents and students for 2024 enrolments.

Hear from the College Principal Dan McMahon on the high quality and very affordable education offered at Shalom College. Register NOW to attend this event – REGISTER HERE (<https://enrol.scbgrok.catholic.edu.au/information-evening>)

**College Open Day - Wednesday 15 March 2023 9.15am - 11.30am**

**Shalom College Performing Arts Precinct**

For prospective parents and students for 2024 enrolments.

The College Principal Dan McMahon will introduce the morning, then you will receive a personalised tour of the school from Shalom College's Year 10 students. All students will receive a complimentary goodie bag on arrival. The morning will conclude with a sausage sizzle for all guests.

Register NOW to attend this event – REGISTER HERE (<https://enrol.scbgrok.catholic.edu.au/open-day>)

**Year 7 2024 Applications Close Friday 21 April 2023**

Enrolment applications for Year 7 2024 are **OPEN!**

For more information on the enrolment process please see link HERE (<https://www.shalomcollege.com/enrolment/enrolment-information/>)

All applications receive an interview

May - June 2023 - Appointments for interviews allocated & interviews commence.

By 31 July 2023 - Notification sent to advise of acceptance outcome.

## OUT AND ABOUT

# Arrows Athletics Hockey Club

AGE GROUPS:  
UNDER 7, 9, 11, 13, 16  
SENIOR MEN AND WOMEN.



## 2023 Season

COME AND TRY WEDNESDAY MARCH 1, 5PM @  
HINKLER PARK



### Contact details

LIKE AND FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK.  
SEND US A FACEBOOK MESSAGE FOR A  
PROMPT REPLY.

BRANCH MANAGER: GENENE BRAYSHER  
0418 799 874



## Come & Try Day

**NO EQUIPMENT NEEDED**

New & Returning Players Welcome!

Programs starting from ages 4  
through to Senior Men and Womens

FEBRUARY 18TH - 9:30AM - 11:30AM

MARCH 4TH - 9:30AM - 11:30AM

1 THORNHILL STREET BUNDABERG NORTH

**COME ALONG ON THE 4TH TO SEE AN  
EXHIBITION MATCH!**

QLD Government Fair Play Vouchers can be used towards  
Registration Fees.

Sausage Sizzle and Drinks will be available on the day!

Check out our Facebook for more information

Contact Us with any Questions you may have!

Email - [citieshockey@hotmail.com](mailto:citieshockey@hotmail.com)

Facebook - The Waves Cities Hockey Club

## Junior Chess Tournament

Sunday Junior Chess Tournaments conducted by the Bundaberg Chess Club Inc will be held on the following dates for 2023.

◇	26/02/2023	26/03/2023
◇	28/05/2023	30/07/2023
◇	27/08/2023	29/10/2023
◇	26/11/2023	

Cost for each tournament is \$8.00. A maximum payment of \$16.00/ family with 3 or more players. The venue is upstairs in the U3A building on Woongarra St, Bundaberg.

The competition starts promptly at 9.00 am. Could children please arrive at 8.45 am to register for the tournament. Each child needs to bring a water bottle and adequate morning tea. The morning consists of 6 rounds of competitive chess plus a chess lesson from Mr John Harris. The morning usually concludes around 12.00-12.20 pm.

Prizes are given for 1st to 3rd place depending on the number of players attending. Lucky door prizes are given and prizes for the most interesting chess game.

All enquires for Junior Chess should sent to John Harris email:-  
[presidentjohn@live.com.au](mailto:presidentjohn@live.com.au) or Ph:- 0418686497.



# PLAYERS WANTED

Interested in Playing Rugby League?

**Eastern Suburbs Magpies JRLC**

are looking for players in

**Under 6, Under 7, Under 8 & Under 10**

You can register at: [playrugbyleague.com](http://playrugbyleague.com)

For any enquiries call Kelly on:

**0428 247 979**

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS RACE DAY

We are seeking donations from any of our families that can be put towards prizes and raffles for this years event.

If you are able to help, please let us know at [spbof-fice@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:spbof-fice@rok.catholic.edu.au) or alternatively call into the office.

ENJOY A DAY OUT AT THE  
BUNDABERG

Catholic Schools

RACE DAY 2023  
CITRUS SPRITZ



# Sold Out!



[HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/CFTHG](https://www.trybooking.com/cfthg)

ADMISSION \$75

INCLUDES ENTRANCE TO THE MARQUEE PARTY, 2 FREE DRINK TICKETS, FINGER FOOD & A BUS TO THE CBD

- FASHION PARADE
- HUGE RAFFLE

*The Catholic Schools Race Day Marquee tickets have SOLD OUT!*

*However, guests can still attend by purchasing General Admission or Reserved Clubhouse Tickets directly from the Bundaberg Race Club, which are available here*

<https://localtickets.com.au/event/2023-catholic-schools-race-day-17615>

## 2023 SPORTING CALENDAR

CROSS COUNTRY			
Obstacle Course P-2	Friday 21 April	9:00-11:00am	St Patrick's Jnr Oval
Cross Country 3-6	Monday 24 April	9:00-11:00am	Shalom College
District Cross Country	Friday 12 May	12:00-2:30pm	Avoca State School
ATHLETICS CARNIVALS			
Athletics—Field Event (born 2011-2014)	Monday 19 June	9:00-2:30pm	St Patrick's
Senior Athletics (born 2011-2014)	Wednesday 21 June	9:00-2:30pm	Shalom College
Junior Athletics (born 2015-2018)	Friday 23 June	9:00-12:00pm	St Patrick's Snr Oval
District Athletics	10 & 11 August	9:00-3:00pm	St Luke's Anglican School
1500m Trials	TBA	9:00am	St Luke's Anglican School
SWIMMING CARNIVALS			
Junior Swimming Carnival	Friday 24 November	9:00-11:00am	Bundaberg Swim Academy
Senior Swimming Carnival	Friday 24 November	11:00-1:00pm	Bundaberg Swim Academy

## TERM ONE PLANNER

WEEK 4	Week 13th February—17th February		
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	5P
Friday	PUPIL FREE DAY		
WEEK 5	Week 20th February—24th February		
Tuesday & Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	3B
Wednesday	Ash Wednesday	8.40am	Year 6
Friday	Sausage Sizzle		Year 5
WEEK 6	Week 27th February—3rd March	Time	Year Level
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 6
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	3C
Friday	Sausage Sizzle		Year 4
WEEK 7	Week 6th March—10th March	Time	Year Level
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 5
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	3L
Friday	Sausage Sizzle	9.00am	Year 3
WEEK 8	Week 13th March—17th March		
Monday	Parish Mass	9:00am	Year 3
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	2C
Thursday	St Patrick's Day Liturgy (Year 6)	9.00am	Whole School
Thursday	Dance Night	5.00pm-6.00pm	Whole School
Friday	Sausage Sizzle		Year 2
WEEK 9	Week 20th March—24th March		
Monday	Parish Mass	9.00am	Year 4
Tuesday—Thursday	Courtyard Prayer	8.40am	2L
Friday	Sausage Sizzle		Year 1
WEEK 10	Week 27th March - 31st March		
Tuesday	Palm Sunday	8.40am	4M & 4K
Wednesday	Last Supper	8.40am	4C
Thursday	Good Friday	8.40am	Year 5
Friday	Easter Liturgy	9.00am	Year 6 & Prep
	Easter Hat Parade	10.15am	Prep to Year 3
	Mini Fair	11.00am-12.15pm	Whole School